

REUSING THE SAME HARDWARE PLATFORM
BY LOADING DIFFERENT APPLICATION
SOFTWARE FROM A MEMORY STICK

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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

10 The present invention provides a system, method, and apparatus for
providing enhanced functionality to a digital terminal device, such as a set
top box configured with a default application program. In one embodiment,
the present invention is comprised of a media receiving apparatus. The
media receiving apparatus is communicatively coupled to and is integral to
the form factor of a set top box. In the present embodiment, the media
receiving apparatus is adapted to receive a digital storage media, such as a
15 memory stick. In the present embodiment, the media receiving apparatus is
further comprised of an accessing mechanism coupled to the media receiving
apparatus. The accessing mechanism is adapted to access the data disposed
within a received digital storage media. In the present embodiment, the
present invention is further comprised of a relaying mechanism coupled to
20 the media receiving apparatus. The relaying mechanism is adapted to relay
the data contained within a digital storage media to a digital terminal device,
such as a set top box. In the present embodiment of the present invention,
the data contained within the digital storage media is an alternative
application software program, configured as a stand-alone, corrective, or
25 upgrade application program to be utilized in a digital terminal device such
as a set top box.